



California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation

# Staff News

*Communicating with Professionals in Corrections and Parole*

[www.cdcr.ca.gov](http://www.cdcr.ca.gov)

September 6, 2005

## A Tonic For The Troops...



*Secretary Roderick Q. Hickman escorts Governor Schwarzenegger to the new CDCR headquarters on Aug. 30 for a briefing on correctional issues.*

## Secretary Hickman, CDCR, Responds to National Call for Help Following Devastation in Katrina's Wake

*On Sept. 2, Secretary Hickman sent a message out to all employee's of CDCR in response to the devastating hurricane that hit the gulf coast. We reprint his message in full.*

Good afternoon. I know many of you have watched, as I have, the terrible toll Hurricane Katrina has left in its wake toward the good people in and around the New Orleans, Louisiana and Biloxi, Mississippi.

*(Please see Katrina, Page 7)*

## Northern California Women's Facility to Open as Training Academy to Meet 2006 Hiring Needs

The California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation recently announced a proposal to reopen the Northern California Women's Facility in Stockton for temporary use as a training academy to address the current crisis of correctional officer staffing in institutions.

This move would allow the Department to better meet its immediate staffing needs by improving correctional officer safety in the institutions state-wide and will save the department millions in operational costs each year.

The CDCR faces a crisis in correctional officer vacancies that is pushing overtime costs to a new high and impacting staff safety. This cost saving proposal to train more correctional officers would not only improve officer safety but would also provide long-term cost savings by offsetting the amount of overtime paid to fill vacancies.

"The limited number of cadets we can train at the existing academy will not keep pace with our needs," said CDCR Secretary **Roderick Q. Hickman**. "There are recruitment and retention issues at specific institutions, and the enhanced retirement benefits that take effect Jan. 1, 2006 will only exacerbate the problem.

"A severe vacancy rate reduces staff safety and institutional security and can cause dangerous incidences to rise. Additionally, impacted staffing not only creates a huge overtime problem but it adversely impacts officer and staff morale." Hickman added. "By bringing a new training academy on line, the vacancies will be filled more quickly, safety and security issues will be improved and overtime will be reduced."

*(Please see Academy, Page 5)*

# Officers Donate Hope Via Bone Marrow Donor Drive

By Kevin Kostecky,  
AA/PIO  
Central California Women's Facility

Central California Women's Facility recently hosted a bone marrow donor drive resulting in 247 names being added to the National Marrow Donor Program's (NMDP) Registry. Staff members from all areas of the prison, and outside law enforcement agencies stepped up and bared their arms to help combat cancer.

The multi-agency group "Officers Give Hope" is using the blood samples obtained during the two-day drive to bolster the list of potential bone marrow donors.

In praising the effort, CCWF Warden **Deborah Jacquez** said, "Because of the diversity with the group of people we have added to the National Registry, I am confident that someone from this institution will be able to help a patient in need of a

bone marrow or stem cell transplant."

Warden Jacquez's prediction proved to be accurate. Following the drive, the registry notified two CCWF staff members that they are positive

matches for patients in need of a bone marrow transplant. As a result, Chief Deputy Warden **Sid Cates** and correctional counselor **I Pete Cerrillo**, both underwent the procedure that extracted bone marrow.

"The donation process was a good experience and I would gladly do it again to help," Cates said, "I was hoping I would be a match. Some people couldn't understand why, but if my family needed a donor, I would be praying every day that someone would be found."

'Family' was also the reason Counselor Cerrillo wanted to be included in the NMDP registry.

"We have all had sick family members that we wanted to help. I am happy to make a difference in another family," Cerrillo said. "Their family is going through a lot right now. It gives me a warm feeling to know I can help."

Potential donors are usually sought from the patient's



*Correctional Officer Stanley discusses the donation process with a volunteer during the CCWF Bone Marrow Donor Drive.*

immediate family first. If no related match is found, the NMDP computerized registry is searched. The computerized registry contains records of the tissue type of individuals who have agreed to donate stem cells.

The computer crosschecks its records to see if there is a match for the patient. This Registry currently contains more than five million potential donors. The NMDP has helped more than 18,000 patients receive transplants using unrelated donors since 1987.

While the patient and donor remain anonymous to each other for at least a year, a card from the man who would benefit from Cates' donation

*(Please see Marrow, Page 5)*



*Prison Industry Authority Chief Deputy Director Chuck Patillo (right) is thanked by Sacramento Police Chief Albert Najera for rescuing a citizen wounded in a drive-by shooting in December 2004.*

## Submissions

*Staff News* is designed to publicize staff activities, innovative programs, and to transmit important information to the rank-and-file. To this end, we need stories and pictures to be submitted for publication. Please send your submissions to:

[agencynews@cdcr.ca.gov](mailto:agencynews@cdcr.ca.gov)



# Long-lived Active Peace Officer and San Quentin Sergeant John K. Whearty Passes at age 82

By Eric Messick

AA/PIO

San Quentin Prison

San Quentin State Prison Correctional Sergeant **John K. Whearty** – believed by many to be one of the longest-lived peace officers on active duty in the nation – died Aug. 18 at age 82.

Whearty began his career with the Department of Corrections on June 15, 1946, and remained active in his duties until spring 2004, when health woes, culminating in a battle with throat cancer, led to his official retirement on July 31, 2005. He succumbed to the cancer less than three weeks later on Aug. 18.

“Sgt. Whearty was a pioneer in Corrections. He loved his work, and more importantly, he loved his correctional family. We will miss him, but he will remain a part of the history of the CDC,” CDCR

Undersecretary **Jeanne Woodford** said.

Early in his career, he worked several years supervising inmates on a San Quentin Road Camp building roads and providing road repair and maintenance throughout Northern California. In 1953, he promoted to correctional sergeant at San Quentin, working more than 40 years as the control sergeant where he was responsible for all inmate movement (bed moves, intake, paroles, transports, etc.) and counts.

Whearty worked in that position, participating in the transition from doing data entry or recording manually to the present-day way of using computer technology. In the mid-90’s, he moved to San Quentin Level I



*Correctional Sergeant John K. Whearty*

Ranch (A minimum security support facility) supervising 250 inmates and several officers.

During his near 59-year career, Whearty worked under 13 wardens at San Quentin, beginning with **Clinton Duffy** and ending with **Jill Brown**.

His funeral was conducted on Aug. 22 at The Parent-Sorensen Mortuary and was well attended by his close friends, staff, and family.

## CSA Project to Study Issue of Disproportionate Minority Contact by Law Enforcement

By Shaline Hunter,  
Corrections Consultant

DMC Coordinator  
Corrections Standards Authority

Advocates, practitioners and policymakers have focused on different issues over the years in the ongoing effort to curb delinquency and improve the effectiveness of the juvenile justice system. One issue receiving increased attention, both here in California and across the nation, is disproportionate minority contact.

DMC refers to the overrepresentation of minority youth who come into contact with the juvenile justice system relative to their

numbers in the general population (contact refers to all decision points in the system, from arrest through detention).

Federal law requires states to address DMC to receive funds appropriated each year by Congress under the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act, which supports several delinquency prevention grant programs.

The Corrections Standards Authority assumed responsibility for administering these federal programs in January 2004 and subsequently convened a workgroup of subject matter experts to develop recommendations

on the most effective strategies for using available federal funds to address DMC in California.

The workgroup members drew upon their own considerable experience with DMC and reviewed options used by other states in addressing this issue, including efforts to:

- Engage juvenile justice stakeholders at the local level;
- Identify decision points with the most significant overrepresentation (i.e., out-of-home placements) through data collection and evaluation;

*(Please see Contact, Page 7)*

## Academy...*(From page two)*



*An overhead view of the former Northern California Women's Facility.*

The Northern California Women's Facility is located on 134 acres in the city of Stockton. The 800 bed-capacity facility will feature a "real-world" training environment by providing facilities such as housing

units and control booths and "hands-on" experience in tactical and range training. Modular housing units on the property will be installed to accommodate cadets.

The first NCWF class will begin training on Nov. 7, 2005, and graduate approximately 200 cadets in February 2006. Each academy class runs 16 weeks and new classes will begin every eight weeks. The projected number of cadets that are expected to be trained and certified from the NCWF facility for FY 05/06 is 600. For FY 06/07 that number will increase to 1,200 cadets and ultimately grow to 1,680 in subsequent years. This is in addition to the number of cadets the existing Academy can accommodate.

CDCR will retain the option to use the facility as a prison based upon the needs of the state to provide housing and supervision for the inmate/ward population.

In addition to enhancing public safety, the training academy will significantly benefit the local economy by creating 150 new jobs and increasing the number of instructors, cadets, and support staff living and purchasing goods in the area.

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## Marrow...*(From page one)*

was waiting at the transplant center for him. "The card was from outside the United States, so I don't know if I will ever meet him," said Cates.

Cerrillo only knows the man he is helping is now 35, and has a birthday around his. By coincidence, Cerrillo had his draw occur on his birthday.

Bone marrow donation is a surgical procedure. There is minimal risk involved. Serious complications are rare but could include anesthesia reactions, infection, transfusion reactions, or injury at the needle insertion sites. The donation process involves removing marrow with a surgical needle from the back of the pelvic bone. All marrow donors receive

either general or regional anesthesia. The procedure lasts between 45 and 90 minutes.

Following the procedure, donors can expect to feel some soreness in the lower back for a few days. Some donors have also reported feeling fatigued. Not so with Cerrillo. He had a flat tire on the way home from the transplant center. "My wife was over protective and told me, 'Don't do anything. We can call for help.' It wasn't a big deal, I changed the tire- no problem."

Cates was quickly back on his feet. When asked about how he felt after the procedure, he said, "It was like a muscle ache you get when you work out for the first time, after tak-

ing some time off. But it was all worthwhile," Cates said.

In addition to making 247 additional donors available, the CCWF Employees Association made a donation of \$3,000 to the National Bone Marrow Foundation. Jim Amis, CCWF Employees' Association board member, said, "We wanted to do something more to fight cancer. I was told it is very expensive to do the blood screening necessary to be considered for donating bone marrow or stem cells. We hope this helps.

For information about the "Officers Give Hope" organization, or to schedule a Bone Marrow Donor Drive at your facility, please go to the website at: <http://www.officersgivehope.com>.

# CSP-Solano K-9 Unit featured at 10<sup>th</sup> Annual Fairfield Police Department “Pig-Out at the Pond”

By Mary Neade  
AA/PIO  
CSP, Solano

In mid-August, California State Prison, Solano’s canine unit, attended the 10<sup>th</sup> Annual *PIG OUT at the Pond* hosted by the Fairfield Police Department.

This event includes various law enforcement agencies who gathered together to educate the general public on the day-to-day operations and services local law enforcement provides.

Invitations went out to all area schools, and many teachers arrived with their students to observe the activities and participate in some of services offered by law enforcement.

The Civic Center pond served as great backdrop for a picnic lunch between demonstrations. Free child identification kits and child fingerprinting were also available and offered to the children attending the event. The Solano County Sheriff’s Department Posse awarded “Junior Deputy Sheriff” badges to participating children.

Displays included patrol vehicles, S.W.A.T. equipment, mobile

command vehicles, police motorcycles, fire engines, ladder trucks, U.S. military equipment, ambulances, EMS displays, watercraft, EOD equipment, K- 9 demonstrations, search and rescue teams, and mounted horse patrols.

CSP, Solano is one of the three institutions within the CDCR that has active Canine Units. Other facilities with canine units include Soledad and Salinas Valley. The CSP, Solano team consists of two handlers and two dogs.

The canine unit is very popular within the community and the team is often invited to attend and provide demonstrations at area community schools, law enforcement functions and public events at Travis Air Force Base. Beyond its tactical uses on the facility for activities such as drug searches, the core mission of the canine unit is to provide mutual aide to other institutions who have planned tactical operations. These institutions include California Medical Facility, Sierra Conservation Camp, Deuel Vocational Institution and Mule Creek State Prison. Additionally, the

canine unit has been requested to participate in major parole sweeps as well as tactical operations.

A very special Thank you to Solano K-9 Handlers, Correctional Offic-

ers J. Whitfield, his K-9 partner “Major” and N. Solis and her K-9 partner “Nando”.

Through hard work and devotion they provide a valuable resource to the Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation and other law enforcement agencies for a combined goal of community safety.

## Staff News

### The Electronic Edition

The *Staff News* is published monthly by the Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation Office of Press and Communications.

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Popular with children, the K-9 Units undergo rigorous training.



# Prison Industries Streamlines Operations, Improves Efficiencies and Reentry Efforts

By Frank Losco  
Chief of Public Affairs  
Prison Industry Authority

The Prison Industry Authority began its fiscal year with the implementation of several enhancements to streamline its operations and improve quality and service. As a result of instituting these new business practices and reorganizing operations, PIA is projecting a good fiscal year.

“PIA’s new Strategic Business Plan addresses efficiency efforts to improve our business operations that support the overall mission of the recently renamed California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation. PIA is introducing several new innovative processes and programs that will provide inmates the ability to obtain employment after their release.

“This is really an investment in public safety, because employed parolees mean safer communities.

“We have already observed positive results as a result of our initial efforts, including an increase of PIA-trained inmates who have paroled

and are now gainfully employed,” said **Matt Powers**, PIA’s General Manager and former Sacramento Deputy Police Chief.

PIA has reduced expenditures through a variety of means, including the elimination of 60 vacant positions. This represents approximately \$4 million in reduced costs. As permitted by the Penal Code, PIA has restructured its procurement process by eliminating the additional cost of purchasing through the Department of General Services. It is anticipated that this effort will decrease procurement costs and will help control prices of PIA products. Additionally, PIA is curbing costs by revamping its distribution and transportation systems.

Several enhancements to PIA’s Inmate Employability Program are also being instituted. Additional emphasis is being placed in assisting inmates to obtain work skills, job certifications, and pre-employment training. Additional staff is being redirected from other positions to better prepare and assist inmates to integrate into the mainstream workforce. The IEP has hired former PIA inmate Christie Shows, who is working to train inmates to obtain employment



after parole and will also be activity at the community level facilitating services for parolee reentry.

In conjunction with the San Diego community, PIA is working to develop a new collaborative program called the “Community Reentry Project” that will assist the reentry of PIA inmates in the greater San Diego area.

This program establishes a community-based organization that provides transitional services to parolees. It is critical that any needed supportive services be provided to the PIA parolee so that successful transition into the community can occur.

In collaboration with the San Diego Sheriff’s Department, the San Diego Workforce Partnership, mental health systems, community and faith based organizations, and local employers, PIA is developing this program that is scheduled to be rolled out this summer. Additionally, an employers’ forum focusing on employing ex-offenders is scheduled for this fall and is designed to highlight the partnership of PIA and the San Diego community.

## Juvenile Division Exec Secretary Deering Retires



*Karen Deering kids with husband Ken, at her retirement party last month. The executive secretary has 39 years of service -- all of it at the former California Youth Authority -- now Division of Juvenile Justice.*

## Katrina...(From page one)

I know like my wife Gloria and I, you are keeping these neighbors of ours in your prayers and thoughts to give them strength to carry on. While I cannot imagine the horror survivors of this devastation are facing in the aftermath of this natural disaster, I also know it will take more than prayers to correct this disaster – it will take action. Action I have seen my peers and coworkers in this department muster up following past traumatic events like the LA and San Francisco earthquakes and more recently the tsunami in Southeast Asia.

One thing is would specifically like to talk about should hit very close to home for all of use within this department.

I recently was contacted by the Office of Richard Stalder, the Director of the Louisiana Department of Public Safety and Corrections. He is requesting our help. Many of his staff have been working 24/7 since Katrina blew through their state.

Some of his staff are unaccounted for, many have lost their homes, many are in shelters and many don't know where their loved ones are or if they are safe. With all those concerns on their minds, the professionals of that state's correctional system were forced to evacuate more than 7,100 inmates from one of their prisons in Orleans Parish and Jefferson Parish.

This is a national emergency and I know everyone is anxious to help. The more than 56,000 employees within the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation have stepped up before and we will do it again. We are in the process of coordinating the state's relief efforts through the Governor's Office of Emergency Service and our Emergency Operations Unit will be the lead contact point between OES and our department in those efforts.

I am asking every superintendent, warden and regional administrator to encourage voluntary relief and donations efforts at their institutions and offices. If you have questions please contact your Warden, Superintendent or regional administrator and they can contact The Emergency Operations Unit (EOU). Please coordinate your questions through your respective offices so we don't overwhelm the EOU.

Director Stalder is asking us to help by providing not only monetary donations, but also basic essentials like diapers, baby formula, food, non perishable food, first aid packages, clothing and blankets. Many of the staff in Louisiana DOC did lose their homes and their families are in refugee centers or hotels, while they are on the job and they need our help.

In addition, if the wards, inmates or parolees would like to help, please let them know that we can coordinate their donations as well.

During this difficult time we are also going to be working with the Correctional Peace Officers Foundation and other organizations such as the American Red Cross to help our staff and the inmates and wards in our institutions communicate with any family members who may be in the impacted areas.

I appreciate the high level of concern expressed by staff to me, and others in my office as we have seen the horrifying consequences of Hurricane Katrina, and the devastation left in its wake.

If you would like to do something on your own, there are a host of organizations that have mobilized to help the victims of Katrina. Here in Sacramento, BloodSource has been a longstanding partner with the CDCR and has received multiple requests from blood banks in Louisiana, Mississippi and Florida. There are also organizations like the American Red Cross <http://www.redcross.org/>, the United Way [www.UnitedWay.org](http://www.UnitedWay.org), the Salvation Army <http://www.salvationarmyusa.org>, and your local church that will help you help the victims of Katrina.

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## Contact...(From page three)

- Implement alternatives to detention in high-risk communities; and
- Provide racial and cultural sensitivity training for staff.

The findings from projects in other states consistently indicate that

addressing DMC not only promotes better outcomes for African-American, Hispanic, Asian and Native-American youth but for all youth.

The experience in these other states also demonstrated that the ability to collect and assess data related to overrepresentation is critical in

addressing DMC. Fortunately, California is well positioned in this regard, because the Department of Justice Criminal Justice Statistics Center is required by statute to collect, analyze and interpret data related to the administration of juvenile justice in California. Probation Departments

*(Please see Contact, Page 8)*

## Contact...(From page seven)

and other local agencies provide pertinent data to CJSC, which in turn issues an annual report that describes, among other things, the population of youth at various decision points in the juvenile justice system by gender, age, and race/ethnic group.

For example, in 2003, there were 221,875 felony juvenile arrests. Of those arrests, 9,522 were Asian/Pacific Islander, 38,527 were Black, 100,440 were Hispanic, 796 were Native American, 67,441 were White, and 5,149 were mixed.

The workgroup recommended, and the CSA adopted, a three-pronged strategy for bolstering California's efforts to address DMC.

The first two pieces have become

known as the DMC Technical Assistance Project. With this initiative, the CSA awarded \$200,000 in available federal funds to the National Council on Crime and Delinquency, which will work collaboratively with three counties in the implementation and evaluation of a seven-step systems approach to reducing DMC. Alameda, Contra Costa and Ventura Counties met the eligibility requirements for participation in this project, which will get underway this month.

To ensure appropriate oversight of the DMC Technical Assistance Project and sufficient staffing for other DMC education, training and technical assistance efforts, the workgroup also recommended cre-

ation of a full-time DMC coordinator position at the CSA, which has been established and filled.

Santa Cruz, San Francisco, San Diego, and Santa Clara counties already have significant DMC-reduction efforts in place. The DMC Technical Assistance Project will build upon these early efforts and keep California at the forefront of juvenile justice reform through a statewide coordinated approach to reducing the overrepresentation of minority youth in the juvenile justice system.

As this important study continues, our efforts will include regularly updating our stakeholders as to the progress of this effort.

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## In Brief...

Several significant events occurred these past several weeks within the **California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation...**

- On August 4, **Officer Charles M. Basinger** of the **California Rehabilitation Center** was

presented with a Letter of Commendation from Warden (A) **Guillermina Hall**, Officer Basinger was recognized for his heroic display of courage on June 2, 2005 while dining at "El Cowboy" restaurant in the city of Riverside. While at the restaurant Officer Basinger witnessed a man attempting to stab the restaurant owner.

He immediately took action by grabbing the subject and taking him to the ground. He was able to maintain custody until the arrival of local law enforce-

ment. Officer Basinger's quick actions prevented serious injury or possible death. We commend Officer Basinger for his display of courage, which brings not only himself credit, but also the Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation and the California Rehabilitation Center!

- The **Folsom Transitional Treatment Facility**, along with the **Center-Point Treatment Staff** conducted **Family Unification Day** on August 26, from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. The day consisted of guest speakers that explained the advantage of completion of **After-Care**. A Lunch Presentation followed the guest speakers, giving time for family members to mingle with staff. Prior to the commencement of Family Unification Day, **Parole Agent Miller** gave a tour through the **Transitional Treatment Facility**.



*Pictured are Correctional Officer Charles M. Basinger, Warden (A) Guillermina Hall, and Chief Deputy Warden (A) Matthew M. Martel.*